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GERMANY.

Reports from Berlin—Health of the city.

BERLIN, GERMANY, December 1, 1902.

During the week ended November 15, the death rate of Berlin was somewhat lower than that of the foregoing week and amounted to 13.4 per 1,000 of the inhabitants, being also lower than the rate for the corresponding week of last year, viz, 14.6 per 1,000. Of the large German towns, the figures were somewhat more favorable in Frankfort on the Main, Cassel, Hanover, Brunswick, Bremen, Kiel, and Schöneberg, with 11.2 per 1,000 inhabitants; all the other towns, however, showed less favorable conditions. The statistics of Charlottenburg were somewhat higher (14.8 per 1,000), and the mortality rate in Königsberg, Breslau, Munich, Cologne, as well as that of London, Paris, and Vienna, was considerably higher than that of Berlin. The number of deaths among children in their first year, as well as among the higher-age classes, decreased considerably. The death rate among infants fell from 3.7 to 3.4 per 1,000, less than one half of that of Munich, Chemnitz, and Strassburg. Acute diseases of the intestines were of unusually rare occurrence this week, the number of deaths therefrom (21) being less than in any week since the first week of January. The number of deaths from acute diseases of the respiratory organs remained unchanged, viz, 53. Pulmonary consumption, however, was of more frequent occurrence than during the foregoing week and claimed 75 victims. The number of cases of measles and scarlet fever decreased, the former causing 4 and the latter 8 deaths. The number of cases of diphtheria increased considerably and caused 9 deaths, being more than double the number of the foregoing week. Two persons died from influenza and 13 persons died by violence.

Plague and cholera as reported to the imperial health office.

RUSSIA.—In Odessa, during the period from November 5 to November 18, no fresh cases of plague were registered.

EGYPT.—In Alexandria, on November 10, a fresh case of plague was registered.

BRITISH INDIA.—In the Bombay Presidency during the week ended November 1, there were recorded 9,310 new plague cases and 6,779 deaths, of which 138 cases and 138 deaths occurred in the city of Bombay, and 10 cases with 7 deaths in the town and port of Karachi.

CAPE COLONY.—Since September 25, when 1 death from plague was registered, no new cases have been recorded, but as late as October 9 plague bacilli continued to be found among rats in Port Elizabeth.

Cremation act—Great Britain.

NOVEMBER 24, 1902.

I have the honor to transmit herewith the text of an act for the regulation of the burning of human remains, and to enable burial authorities to establish crematoria (as published in the official organ of the imperial health office, Berlin):

Be it enacted by the King's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the lords spiritual and temporal, and commons, in this present parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1. Short title. This act may be cited as the cremation act, 1902.
2. Definitions. In this act—